

Music and Drama

The Orpheum.

The Orpheum is dark this week owing to the arrival of the long-expected chairs. The house will be closed for a week only and work will be pushed to the utmost to get the alterations completed in this time. Four hundred new chairs are to be put in, making a most comfortable change for the patrons of the house; the floor will be raised, the stage enlarged and heightened, besides additional dressing rooms for the performers. The Orpheum will be a very cosy little theatre when all is finished. The company lay off for the week and new talent comes with



THE WILLARDS.

the arrival of the Australia. Ethel Dixon's return was marked with the same appreciation as her initial appearance. Honoluluites never tire of good singing. Mr. Hill continues as popular as ever. The Willards bring a very elaborate and expensive act, which has "caught on." Hearde, the new "coonist," brings new jokes, which the audience as usual, fail to see, and sings his darktown melodies most appreciably. I would humbly suggest, that when the house is reopened, the drums be not handed over the footlights. It's handy, but they don't do it in a first class house. Have a hole made in the stage apron, Mr. Cohen, and then when brother Adams makes his rapid change from interlocutor to traps, he won't have to walk over to the footlights and through the box in the full glory of his make-up and the drums can come through the same door.

AN OLD TIMER.

Boston Lyric Opera Company.

There are very few people in Honolulu who do not possess a soul for music, and naturally there are a great many who will be ready to extend the most royal kind of a welcome to any organization where music is its principal attraction. There is something sublime in the magnificent rendering of an opera; something which carries on its tuneable wings messages of joy and contentment, peace and perfect happiness. Music appeals to all natures. It has a road that leads to every heart. There is always a welcome offering at its doors. It stirs the soul in its thrilling measure and lulls to rest by its plaintive movement. It is a solace, a comfort, a charm that makes the hard-handed and the tired brain worker forget the trials of the day's labor. There is no form of attraction which can possibly be secured by the local management that is more acceptable and appreciated than good, first-class productions of comic opera, and it goes without saying that the engagement of the famous Boston Lyric Opera Company, which commences its engagement in the city Tuesday, October 31st, for an eight weeks season, will fill the bill to perfection.

The reputation of this organization of singers is world-wide. The productions are absolutely

perfect in every detail. No expense has been spared in staging the different operas in the repertoire. Lavish display has been the rule and consequently beautiful costumes and delightful appointments will be in order. Excellence is the standard of every performance, and a charmingly-spent evening the result.

Herr Friedenthal.

Good, though hardly the crowded houses one would have expected, have attended Herr Friedenthal's recitals this week. The WEEKLY's critic was only able to personally be present at one recital, but can, from that, cordially endorse all that has been heralded of Mr. Friedenthal's playing. His selections from the "Flying Dutchman" and the rendering of other of Wagner's works, showed alike the deep student, the master and the poet. Thoroughly the master of his instrument, his power asserts itself, especially in the delicate strength of the spinning song. The whole evening's repertoire taxed the pianist to the utmost. Wagner is no mean test of a pianist's ability, from caressing bird notes to the full sweep of the storm.

Herr Friedenthal emerged triumphant from the trial, while it was a pleasure to see the intense interest manifested by the audience. Honolulu has few opportunities of hearing really good music, and it is gratifying to see that there are many here who seem to fully realize their opportunity.

Mr. W. E. Sharp.

Mr. W. E. Sharp, whose portrait we present this week, is well-known in the musical world here. He came down here from San Francisco to the Orpheum, and was the whole orchestra himself as pianist. To Mr. Sharp is due the entire credit of the present excellent standing of the Orpheum orchestra. The various members were collected and drilled into shape by the Pro-



MR. W. E. SHARP.

fessor, as he was commonly termed. Circumstances led to a complication in the musical directorate of the Orpheum, Mr. Sharp promptly sent in his resignation, which was, with regret, accepted by the management of the house, who stipulated, however, for a four weeks' notice. Mr. Sharp, on leaving the Orpheum for the control of the musical department of Wall, Nichols & Co., where he still holds sway, did so with the sincere regrets of the theatre's management, they writing him as follows: "With deep regret

we deplore very much the unavoidable circumstances which have arisen. In severing our connection, which however we trust will be only temporary, we are all sorry to lose you, we recognize your great ability as a musical director. You have always worked in the interest of the house and have by your efforts, made the musical portion of our program a feature."

THE ORPHEUM CO., LTD.

Mr. Sharp, besides a pianist, is a cornet-soloist of no ordinary ability. He and his wife are now settled in Honolulu and bid fair to become in time old kamaainas of the place. Mr. Sharp has many friends in Honolulu who are glad to see him meet with the business success that has attended him in his new relations.

An Actor's Meals.

The general public, while of late years admitting the actor as a "possible" person, still maintains the idea that off the stage, aside from rehearsals, he passes his time in a state of wild hilarity and quotes as a proof thereof, the extraordinary hours at which he dines. Yet at second sight it is very simple. Take the Boston Lyric Co. for instance. The hardest part of the day's work, in fact, the day's work comes at night, before singing it is well known a heavy meal deadens the voice, consequently the public singer takes a meal at about three in the afternoon and after his work is over, his energies exhausted, he recuperates with a hearty meal, his dinner, after the performance. Naturally his dinner being a few hours late, a late breakfast results and the untimely hours of the actors' repast are not from inherent laziness, but necessities incurred by his chosen profession.

Mr. Harkinson, the genial advance agent of the Boston Lyrics, stood on the corner of Fort and King streets, under the protecting eaves of the Hobron Drug Co., looking at the little islands that the rain had left in the road. On being informed that the real, regular rainy season was not yet, that gentleman brightened visibly, and smiled yet more broadly as he spoke of the woes of the fair ones of the chorus, and even, probably, the prima donnas themselves as, on the briny, vasty deep they yielded tribute to the fishy tribe.

"I'd hate," said Mr. H., "I'd hate like the dickens to have them sick all the way over here and then come into Honolulu with it raining cats and dogs. Why, after all I've written them about the place, and its flowers, sunshine and surf riding and all that sort of thing, they'd mob me sure. You know how it is with the 'man ahead of the show' he gets the blame of everything, including the weather, the hotel fare and the local price of umbrellas."

The Cup Race.

O that the "wings of a dove" were strong enough to bear a pigeon post between us and the mainland, or that we could get a cable or wireless telegraphy or something.

It is not only exasperating but rather humiliating to have a glimpse of the outside world open for an instant only to close abruptly for another week. The papers of fourteen days ago gave us just enough news about the boats to make things exciting. A close race was assured apparently and then come two weeks blank. Probably by the time the WEEKLY is on the newsstand the news of one or more of the races will be here.

Martin Denny is in training at Long Branch Baths. He is quite as confident of winning the contest as his opponent, Mr. Armstrong. His who understands his business. Alex. familiarly trainer, Alex. Hanson, is a thoroughly hard worker, is known as "The genuine gentlemen," says that Martin has the contest just as good as won already.